

IC 22-10-8

Chapter 8. Coal and Rock Dust

IC 22-10-8-1

Settling dust; wetting agents or other methods

Sec. 1. (A) Coal dust, loose coal, and other combustible materials shall not be permitted to accumulate in active underground workings of a mine.

(B) Where underground mining operations raise an excessive amount of dust into the air, water, or water with a wetting agent added to it, or other effective method shall be used to allay such dust at its source.

(Formerly: Acts 1955, c.168, s.59.)

IC 22-10-8-2

Rock dusting; samples of dust; testing; records

Sec. 2. (a) All underground mines, except those mines or areas of mines in which the dust is too wet or too high in incombustible content to propagate an explosion, shall be rock dusted to within forty (40) feet of all faces, and, if open breakthroughs near such faces are less than forty (40) feet therefrom, such breakthroughs shall be rock dusted.

(b) In mines partially rock dusted or in mines that are required to start rock dustings, all haulageways and parallel entries connected thereto by open breakthroughs shall be rock dusted. Back entries shall be rock dusted for at least one thousand (1,000) feet outby the junction with the first active entry. Inby this junction, the rooms, entries, and breakthroughs shall be rock dusted.

(c) Where rock dust is applied, it shall be distributed upon the top, floor, and sides of all open places and maintained in such quantity that the incombustible content of the combined coal dust, rock dust, and other dust will not be less than sixty-five percent (65%). Where methane is present in any ventilating current, the sixty-five percent (65%) of incombustible content of such combined dust shall be increased one percent (1%) for each one-tenth of one percent (0.1%) of methane.

(d) Samples of dust shall be gathered every month from the road, roof, rib, and timbers on each split of air, and tested to determine if any part of the mine requires redusting. The method of analyzing or testing approved by the director shall be employed. Analysis of dust samples by the federal Mine Safety and Health Administration shall be an acceptable method of analysis and testing.

(e) A written record shall be entered in a book kept for that purpose in the mine office, showing the location at which samples have been taken, and the results of the analysis. A map of the mine shall be kept available for inspection by interested persons to show the extent of rock dusting. If the director approves the analysis of dust samples by the federal Mine Safety and Health Administration as the method of analyzing and testing dust samples to be employed under this section, then the operator shall not be required to maintain

the written record showing the location of samples taken and results of the analysis and the map of the mine showing the extent of rock dusting.

(Formerly: Acts 1955, c.168, s.60.) As amended by P.L.231-1983, SEC.18.